



**BARS Meeting Thursday 17th of
February 2011**

We are back to our third Thursday meeting schedule this month, so the next BARS meeting will be Thursday the 16th of December at the Brandon Assembly of God at 710 South Kings (next to the golf driving range). The BARS meeting will be in the annex next to the sanctuary building. Things get underway when Doris bangs the gavel at 7:30 p.m. Our VP, Bernie W4BGH is putting together a presentation on Vector Network Analyzers – be ready to take notes! If you think of someone who has not been to a meeting for a while, give ‘em a call!

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**Boy Scouts of America and ARRL Team
Up to Help Scouts Learn
Communications Skills**

From The ARRL Letter

After working together for nearly a century to provide Scouts with the ability to learn radio communication skills, Boy Scouts of America and the ARRL have officially teamed up by signing a memorandum of understanding. This MOU designates the ARRL as a key resource for K2BSA

and Radio Merit Badge training at the BSA National Scout Jamboree and establishes the ARRL as the go-to source for Scouts interested in learning about and becoming involved in radio communication.

BSA Chief Scout Executive Bob Mazzuca and ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, launched the partnership January 31 by holding a unique wireless communications meeting. Mazzuca joined Craigie virtually during an Internet video conference and document-signing ceremony. From separate locations, the pair took the opportunity to talk about the importance of each organization to the ongoing development of the other.

“Throughout the years, going all the way back to the Wireless Merit Badge in 1918, the ARRL has worked hand-in-hand with Boy Scouts of America to help teach Scouts the skills and joys of radio communication,” said Chief Scout Executive Bob Mazzuca. “Today, we are making official a relationship that has been beneficial for both of our organizations for nearly a century.”

BSA, by virtue of its active membership and its outdoor program, represents a significant source of

potential new radio operators looking to utilize Amateur Radio for emergency communications while in the field as well as for education, experimentation, and friendship. As part of this strategic alliance, BSA will encourage Scouts and Scouters to become familiar with opportunities for public and community service, learning and personal growth through involvement in Amateur Radio.

“We’re excited by the opportunity to make official a relationship that has existed informally for many years,” said Craigie. “Scouts and Scouters have been some of the strongest proponents and practitioners of radio communication, and we know they will continue to help foster a love and understanding for the essential nature of radio communication for generations to come.” Craigie also noted the numbers of people whose early interests in Amateur Radio led them to electronics and engineering careers in areas that were never foreseen when they were young.

The BSA established the strategic alliance with ARRL because the mission of the ARRL is complementary to the mission and goals of the BSA. Specifically, the ARRL is organized for the establishment of networks to provide communications in the event of disasters or other emergencies, the advancement of the radio art and of the public welfare, the fostering of education, the promotion and conduct of research and development, and the dissemination of technical, educational and scientific information relating to electronic communication, the representation of radio amateurs in regulatory matters, and the promotion of fraternalism and high standards of conduct among radio amateurs.

In addition to its National Scout Jamboree involvement, ARRL will continue to promote participation in the annual Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) event. ARRL will serve as contributing editor to the Radio Merit Badge publication, will assist with the review, creation and modification of requirements as necessary, and will assist in

developing course material, lesson plans, and other resources for teaching the Radio Merit Badge to Scouts. ARRL also will contribute to the content of the Electricity, Electronics, and Emergency Preparedness and Communications merit badge publications.

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**Check out the BARS website at
brandonhamradio.org**

Mid-Florida DX Association Offering Technician Class License Course

The Mid Florida DX Association will be holding a six (6) week course where you can learn everything you need to earn your Technician (entry level) FCC Amateur Radio License. The only cost is the study guide, \$ 29.95 and is available from www.ARRL.org or see Tony N2MFT, plus the testing fee when you’re ready for the license examination. The Technician license is your gateway to the world-wide excitement of Amateur Radio and remember **you do NOT need to learn Morse code!** The classes begin Sunday February 20, 2011 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. They run for 6 weeks and will be held at the Masonic Lodge at 4601 N. Habana Ave, Tampa, Florida 33614. To join, contact: Tony De Angelo, N2MFT, phone 813-318-1700 or via e-mail: TonyN2MFT@gmail.com

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Radio On The Water QUIZ!

Let’s do a check on information retention from the past two issues where we discussed radio on the water, both HF and VHF. This time instead of thinking up questions myself, I decided to let the FCC do the work. These questions come from various elements of the FCC license examinations. Sharpen your pencils and let’s dive in!

1. Small passenger vessels that sail 20 to 150 nautical miles from the nearest land must have what additional equipment?

- A. Inmarsat-B terminal.
- B. Inmarsat-C terminal.
- C. Aircraft Transceiver with 121.5 MHz.
- D. MF-HF SSB Transceiver.

2. Radio watches for compulsory radiotelephone stations will include the following:

- A. VHF channel 22a continuous watch at sea.
- B. 121.5 MHz continuous watch at sea.
- C. VHF channel 16 continuous watch.
- D. 500 kHz.

3. All compulsory equipped cargo ships (except those operating under GMDSS regulations or in a VTS) while being navigated outside of a harbor or port, shall keep a continuous radiotelephone watch on:

- A. 2182 kHz and Ch-16.
- B. 2182 kHz.
- C. Ch-16.
- D. Cargo ships are exempt from radio watch regulations.

4. Radiotelephone stations required to keep logs of their transmissions must include:

- A. Station, date and time.
- B. Name of operator on duty.
- C. Station call signs with which communication took place.
- D. All of these.

5. What is the best way for a radio operator to minimize or prevent interference to other stations?

- A. By using an omni-directional antenna pointed away from other stations.
- B. Reducing power to a level that will not affect other on-frequency communications.
- C. Determine that a frequency is not in use by monitoring the frequency before transmitting.
- D. By changing frequency when notified that a radio communication causes interference.

6. In the International Phonetic Alphabet, the letters E, M, and S are represented by the words:

- A. Echo, Michigan, Sonar.
- B. Equator, Mike, Sonar.
- C. Echo, Mike, Sierra
- D. Element, Mister, Scooter

7. Which VHF channel is used only for digital selective calling (DSC)?

- A. Channel 70.
- B. Channel 16.
- C. Channel 22A.
- D. Channel 6.

8. To set-up the MF/HF transceiver for a voice call to a coast station, the operator must:

- A. Select J3E mode for proper SITOR operations.
- B. Select F1B mode or J2B mode, depending on the equipment manufacturer.
- C. Select J3E mode for proper voice operations.
- D. Select F1B/J2B modes or J3E mode, depending on whether FEC or ARQ is preferred.

9. What is the purpose of the Receiver Incremental Tuning (RIT) or "Clarifier" control?

- A. It acts as a "fine-tune" control on the receive frequency.
- B. It acts as a "fine-tune" control on the transmitted frequency.
- C. It acts as a "fine-tune" control on both the receive and transmitted frequencies.
- D. None of the above.

10. What is the MF radiotelephony calling and Distress frequency?

- A. 2670 kHz.
- B. Ch-06 VHF.
- C. 2182 kHz.
- D. Ch-22 VHF.

11. What emission must be used when operating on the MF distress and calling voice frequency?

- A. J3E – Single sideband telephony.
- B. A1A – On-off keying without modulation by an audio frequency.
- C. F3E – Frequency modulation telephony.
- D. A3E – Amplitude modulation telephony, double sideband.

Answers will be given at the meeting. If you do well on this, think about going for your Marine Radio Operator Permit, GROL with Ship RADAR endorsement or GMDSS tickets. It's neat stuff to hang up in the ham shack!

The Antenna

Newsletter of the
Brandon Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 2307
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Keep in Mind Our Weekly Nets and Bulletins

**Monday 8 p.m. The Two Meter Net 147.765 - 147.165 MHz Hosted by Doris Haskell
WB9VDT**

**Tuesday 7 p.m. 6-meter Roundtable 50.200 MHz USB followed at 8 p.m. with the 10
Meter Roundtable 28.365 MHz USB**

**Thursday 8 p.m. (except for club meetings) YL Net hosted by Doris Haskell
WB9VDT on W7RRS Repeater 146.745**

**Remember Saturday morning breakfast at The Golden Corral at Providence and
Lumsden. Most start showing up at 7:30 a.m. when the restaurant opens.**